

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02 H-02 INR-09 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-14

STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-12 PRS-01 SAL-01 OMB-01

IO-12 NEA-10 OPIC-12 SIL-01 INRE-00 RSR-01 /211 W

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R 150320 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6374

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E. O. 11652 : N/A

TAGS: EAGR, EGEN, NZ

SUBJECT: SECTION 22 ACTION ON CHEESE QUOTAS

REF: STATE 42839 AND 42993.

1. GNZ HAS INDICATED CERTAIN OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSED TEMPORARY 50 PER CENT INCREASE IN U. S. ANNUAL CHEESE QUOTAS. THEY INFORMED AGATTACHE THEY ARE CONCERNED THAT IF LARGER QUANTITIES OF QUOTA CHEESES ARE PERMITTED TO BE IMPORTED THE NEW ZEALAND DAIRY BOARD (NZDB) WOULD BE AT A DISADVANTAGE IN SUPPLYING BECAUSE OF SUBSIDIZED EXPORTS FROM EC COUNTRIES. GNZ MAINTAINS THAT RECOGNITION AND PREFERENCE SHOULD BE GIVEN TO UNSUBSIDIZED IMPORTS OF CHEESE FROM EFFICIENT PRODUCING COUNTRIES. EC THEY MAINTAIN WILL FORCE THE PRICE DOWN TO A LEVEL WHICH COULD BE UNACCEPTABLE TO NZDB AND WILL IN EFFECT BE DUMPING CHEESE IN U. S. MARKET.

2. GNZ AND NZDB ARE ALSO CONCERNED THAT INCREASES WILL ONLY APPLY TO INDIVIDUAL QUOTAS INSTEAD OF AN ACROSS- THE-
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BOARD INCREASE TOTALLING 63.9 MILLION. IF INCREASES APPLY TO INDIVIDUAL QUOTAS NZDB WOULD BE RESTRICTED TO EXPORTING CERTAIN CHEESES, I. E. APPROX 2.8 MILLION POUNDS OF CHEDDAR, 1.7 MILLION POUNDS OF GRANULAR, AND 3.8 MILLION POUNDS OF OTHER CHEESES, MAINLY CHESHIRE. THE BOARD FEELS IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO SUPPLY THESE SMALL QUANTITIES, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF EC SUBSIDIZED COMPETITION.

3. GNZ AND NZDB URGE THAT COUNTRIES BE PERMITTED TO SHIP WHATEVER CHEESE IMPORTERS WANT TO BUY WITHIN THE 50 PER CENT INCREASE IN QUOTAS. IN SUCH CASE NZDB WOULD SUPPLY ALL CHEDDAR CHEESE (I. E. ABOUT 8.3 MILLION POUNDS) WITHOUT DIFFICULTY.

4. AGATTACHE INFORMED THE GNZ WILL BE MAKING A HIGH LEVEL APPROACH THROUGH N. Z. EMBASSY RE THIS MATTER. CHARGE WOULD SUGGEST SYMPATHETIC HEARING BE GIVEN GNZ PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF REDUCED PROSPECTS FOR CHEDDAR CHEESE SALES IN THE ENLARGED COMMUNITY.
WOOD

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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